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TAGS: PINT, KS, US
SUBJ: JUSTICE MINISTRY "OFFICIALS" GIVE BACKGROUND ON PAK-TONG-SUN DISCUSSIONS WITH USG

SUMMARY. ACCORDING TO KOREAN PRESS, ON OCTOBER 24, JUSTICE MINISTRY OFFICIALS PRESENTED ROKG SIDE OF PAK TONG-SUN NEGOTIATIONS WITH US JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS "ON BACKGROUND." END SUMMARY.

1. ON OCTOBER 24 AND 25, KOREAN PRESS QUOTED "JUSTICE MINISTRY OFFICIALS" ON ROKG/USG DISCUSSIONS (OCTOBER 17-20) ON PROPOSED QUESTIONING OF PAK TONG-SUN BY US JUCTICE DEPARTMENT. ACCOFDING TO UNNAMED ROK OFFICIALS, CHIEF PROBLEM LAY IN "DIFFERING JUDICIAL SYSTEMS" FOLLOWED BY TWO COUNTRIES INVOLVED.

2. ACCORDING TO ROKG OFFICIALS, US JUSTICE DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES STOOD FAST ON THEIR PROPOSAL THAT PAK BE QUESTIONED BY US IN THIRD COUNTRY WITH KOREAN PROSECUTORS PRESENT. THEY WERE ALSO "ADAMANT" IN THEIR POSITION THAT PAK SHOULD TESTIFY BEFORE A US GRAND JURY.

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3. ROKG SOURCES NOTED AGAIN THERE IS NO EXTRADITION TREATY BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES AND FURTHERMORE, PAK DID NOT WANT TO GO TO US. PRESS ALSO REPORTED THAT KOREAN INVESTIGATORS HAD PROPOSED ROKG COURTS THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATE PAK CASE IN PRESENCE OF KOREAN PROSECUTORS IF US WOULD "PRESENT" CRIMINAL CHARGES LODGED AGAINST PAK. US REJECTED THIS, "PREFERRING ITS THIRD COUNTRY FORMULA." KOREAN OFFICIALS FURTHER PROPOSED THAT TEAM OF US NEGOTIATORS THEMSELVES TRY TO PERSUADE PAK TO RETURN TO US. ACCORDING TO THESE SOURCES, US NEGOTIATORS AGREED TO THIS LATTER PROPOSAL AS WELL AS GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE POSED TO PAK. USG AND ROGK NEGOTIATORS, HOWEVER, DIFFERED ON SITE FOR "MEETING" WITH PAK. USG DESIRED US EMBASSY CHANCERY BUT KOREANS WISHED LOCALE OTHER THAN US EMBASSY OR ROKG COMBINED GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING.

5. PRESS TO DATE HAS OFFERED UNIFORM REPORTING ON MOJ BRIEFING WITHOUT SPECULATION NORMAL IN SUCH CASES.

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